



9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG-2012-0362]

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Lake Washington Ship Canal, Seattle, WA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the operating schedule that governs University Bridge across the Lake Washington Ship Canal, mile 4.3, at Seattle, WA. This deviation is necessary to accommodate the Beat the Bridge charity foot race scheduled for Sunday, May 20, 2012. This deviation allows the bridge to remain in the closed position to allow safe movement of event participants.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 8 a.m. on May 20, 2012 through 9:30 a.m. May 20, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket are part of docket USCG-2012-0362 and are available online by going to <http://www.regulations.gov>, inserting USCG-2012-0362 in the "Keyword" box and then clicking "Search". They are also available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management Facility (M-30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West

Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this rule, call or e-mail the Bridge Administrator, Coast Guard Thirteenth District; telephone 206-220-7282 e-mail randall.d.overton@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Washington State Department of Transportation has requested that University Bridge remain closed to vessel traffic to facilitate safe passage of participants of the Beat the Bridge charity event. Beat the Bridge is an annual foot race held in Seattle, WA to benefit diabetes research. The race course passes over University Bridge. University Bridge crosses the Lake Washington Ship Canal at mile 4.3 and while in the closed position provides 30 feet of vertical clearance throughout the navigation channel and 45 feet of vertical clearance through the center of the bridge; vertical clearance referenced to the Mean Water Level of Lake Washington. Vessels which do not require a bridge opening may continue to transit beneath the bridge during this closure period. Under normal conditions this bridge operates in accordance with 33 CFR § 117.1051(d) which requires the bridge to open

on signal, except that the bridge need not open for vessels less than 1,000 gross tons from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. This deviation period is from 8 a.m. on Sunday, May 20, 2012 through 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 20, 2012. The deviation allows the bascule span of the University Bridge to remain in the closed position and need not open for maritime traffic from 8 a.m. through 9:30 a.m. on May 20, 2012. The bridge shall operate in accordance to 33 CFR § 117.1051(d) at all other times.

Waterway usage on the Lake Washington Ship Canal ranges from commercial tug and barge to small pleasure craft. Mariners will be notified and kept informed of the bridge's operational status via the Coast Guard Notice to Mariners publication and Broadcast Notice to Mariners as appropriate. The draw span will be required to open, if needed, for vessels engaged in emergency response operations during this closure period.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated:4/19/2012 RANDALL D. OVERTON
Bridge Administrator

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